

SportTayside & Fife

DEVELOPING SPORTING PATHWAYS IN TAYSIDE & FIFE

I am delighted to be able to introduce the second of our Partnership newsletters to update you on our recent progress and outline some of the exciting developments ahead.

Planning for Sport

Our Partnership sits across local, regional and national organisations and therefore it is important that we take a planned approach to developing sport within Tayside & Fife to maximise our effectiveness and make a positive impact. We are therefore taking a lead role in this process to ensure selected Scottish Governing Bodies of Sport's national strategies are filtered through to local level and the sports move forward in a co-ordinated manner in line with the rest of Scotland.

We are currently writing a strategic framework for the Partnership and each of our sport specific and coaching team are undertaking a similar exercise for each sport in order to:

- Strengthen the infrastructure of sport in Tayside & Fife
- Increase participation in sport leading to lifelong involvement
- Improve performances of our developing athletes to achieve national standards or Area Institute of Sport level

Whilst the regional team will concentrate on Coaches, Officials, Volunteers, Clubs, Facilities and sport specific Player Improvement Programmes we will work in partnership with local partners to provide more participation opportunities at local level in our priority sports (Athletics, Basketball, Clubgolf, Gymnastics, Hockey, Rugby, Swimming and Girl's & Women's Football).

Over the coming few months, the regional team will be consulting with sporting communities through development groups and regional associations on how we hope to work with you for the next three years. If you would like to get involved in this process, I would urge you to contact the team directly.

Player Improvement Programmes

Coming soon! Some of our sports will be launching new Player Improvement Programmes to support our developing athletes at regional level. This programme aims to enhance the current provision within the sport and support the athlete / player development pathway in partnership with clubs, coaches and parents.

Farewell

On a personal note, I will be moving on to take up post as the Area Manager of the Tayside and Fife Institute of Sport in September. I have worked with the **SportTayside & Fife** Partnership for four years and I would like to thank all who have worked with me and supported me throughout my time here. I'd like to wish the new management and the Partnership well and look forward to continuing the good partnership working between both organisations.

Catriona Semple

Acting Regional Manager

Girls/Women's

Football

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DEVELOPING GIRLS / WOMEN'S FOOTBALL IN TAYSIDE

Two more clubs sign up for SFA Quality Mark Scheme

Arbroath Inchcape FC and St.Johnstone Girls FC have both signed up to participate in the SFA's Club Development scheme, Quality Mark. Both clubs are well established within Tayside and are very excited about the prospects of developing their clubs further. They will be offered a host of benefits including professional officer support, grants towards coach education training, and free places on First Aid and Child Protection courses as they work towards attaining their first level on the Scheme.

If your club would like more information on the SFA Quality Scheme and the benefits your club could receive please contact me.

Angus and Dundee ready to launch new Local Area Squads

This autumn Angus and Dundee will launch the first ever Girls Football Local Area Squads. The U13 squads will be run through Angus Council and Dundee City Council Football Development Programmes and will target players who are just below Tayside Development Squad level. Trials have been organised in both areas with information sent out to schools and clubs to nominate players.

Trial dates are as follows:

Angus:	Arbroath Sports Centre	22 nd & 29 th August	4:00pm – 6:00pm
Angus:	Forfar Academy	22 nd & 29 th August	4:00pm – 6:00pm
Dundee:	Dawson Park	14 th September	5:20pm – 6:50pm
Dundee:	Dawson Park	20 th September	5:20pm – 6:50pm

If you would like more information on the Local Area Squads or would like to request a player nomination form please contact Gemma Fay.

Development Squad Trials Underway

The first block of the 2006 / 2007 Tayside Development Squad commences on Thursday 31st August. At present, trials are underway to select U13, U15, and U17 squads. Once again the level of players attending has risen, showing the increase development across the region. We are delighted to welcome new coach, Joe Meldrum, into the programme, who will become Head coach of the U17's. Joe is a well-respected coach who works within the Angus Council Football Development Programme. With the majority of coaches returning for this season the line up for age groups is as follows:

U13 Head Coach - Nicky Murray, Assistant Coach - Debbie Johnston
 U15 Head Coach – Tony Murray
 U17 Head Coach – Joe Meldrum, Assistant Coach – Fay Hughes
 All ages – Goalkeeping coach – Wayne Henderson

East Region Squad To kick-off in Perth

As a result of the regionalisation that has taken place within Scottish Football over the last year, this August will see the introduction of a new East Region Squad that will replace the existing Elite Squad Programme. The East Region Squad will cater for players within the Tayside & Fife Area and will operate at U15 and U19 age groups. The Squad will have access to high quality coaching and physiotherapy as well as regular Sport Science support. This will provide all budding young players an opportunity to develop themselves into top athletes with the best support in the region available to them.

Tayside Starlets make break through to National Squad

The Scottish U15 National Team head to Germany on August 12th to take part in a friendly tournament, including a match against the mighty Germans. Within the squad will be four girls flying the flag for Tayside. Current Elite Squad players Lucie Cook, Lisa Evans (St.Johnstone GFC), Tammy Harkin and Kim Thompson (Dundee West FC) have all been selected to represent Scotland. This will be the first time the girls will have represented Scotland in an official tournament and we wish the all the very best!

Inaugural Coach Development Days to take place across East Region

In an effort to offer continual development opportunities to the region's coaches, three Coach Development Days have been organised throughout the East Region. The first day took place in Fife on August 13th in Cowdenbeath and was a great success, focusing on the theme of "Developing Creative Players". The remaining days will allow coaches in other areas of the region to explore the components of this theme in depth. The details are as follows:

Area	Venue	Date	Time	Theme	Contact
Angus & Dundee	D.I.S.C, Dundee	Saturday September 23 rd 2006	10:00am – 3:00pm	Developing Creative Players	Mark Munro - Mark.Munro@scottishfa.co.uk
Perth & Kinross	Kilgraston School, Bridge of Earn	Sunday September 10 th 2006	10:00am – 3:00pm	Developing Creative Players	Mark Munro - Mark.Munro@scottishfa.co.uk

For information on SFA courses, or generic sports courses available in the region please contact **SportTayside & Fife**.

If you wish to submit any information for the next newsletter please do so by **Monday 13th November**